

for the delivery and collection of all survey documentation forms, answer sheets and questionnaires.

V- Results

A total of 4178 students completed the survey, representing a 95% overall response rate, and 51.3% of them were males.

V.1- Tobacco use

Table 1: Percent of students who use tobacco, United Arab Emirates GYTS, 2002

Category	Ever Smoked Cigarettes, Even One or Two Puffs	Ever Smoked Cigarettes, Even One or Two Puffs	Current Use			Never Smokers Susceptible to Initiating Smoking
	Total	1 st tried smoking at less than 10 years of age	Any Tobacco Product	Cigarettes	Other Tobacco Products	
Total	20.9 (± 3.2)	25 (± 4.3)	21.9 (± 2.9)	8.9 (± 2.1)	17.8 (± 2.1)	9.8 (± 1.6)
Sex						
Male	20.9 (± 3.8)	23.0 (± 4.6)	29.7 (± 3.3)	14.3 (± 3.0)	22.8 (± 2.6)	13.4 (± 2.1)
Female	10.9 (± 2.3)	31.3 (± 8.6)	12.6 (± 2.1)	2.9 (± 1.0)	11.2 (± 1.9)	6.4 (± 1.1)

One in five (20.9%) of all students have ever smoked cigarettes (Table 1), with ever smoking twice as high for males (20.9) compared to females (10.9). One in four (25.8%) of students who ever smoked cigarettes first tried smoking at less than ten years of age. One in five students (21.9%) currently use any tobacco product, one in ten (8.9%) currently smoke cigarettes and one in five (17.8%) currently use other tobacco products. Compared to females, more than four times as many males currently smoke cigarettes and more than two times as many males currently smoke some other form of tobacco; both results are statistically significant. Among never smokers slightly more than one in ten males (13.4%) and one in twenty females (6.4%) indicated they were likely to initiate smoking during the next year. There exists a statistically significant difference between males and females regarding tobacco use where male users are twice as many as female users. Moreover, there are as many males susceptible to initiate smoking as current users but twice as many females are susceptible to start smoking compared to current female smokers.

V.2- Schools and tobacco

Table 2: School Curriculum, United Arab Emirates GYTS, 2002

Category	Percent taught dangers of smoking	Percent discussed reasons why people their age smoke
Total	46.1 (± 3.4)	28.2 (± 2.8)
Sex		
Male	45.4 (± 3.4)	28.2 (± 3.5)
Female	46.2 (± 5.7)	27.4 (± 5.3)

Less than half of all students were taught in schools during the past year about the dangers of smoking (46.1%), and less than one third of students had discussed during the past year reasons why people their age smoke (28.2%) (table 2). There were no significant differences by gender.

V.3- Cessation

Table 3: Cessation, United Arab Emirates GYTS, 2002

Category	Current Smokers	
	Percent desire to stop	Percent tried to stop this year
Total	66.8 (± 10.4)	64.2 (± 6.7)
Sex		
Male	69.6 (± 13.0)	69.3 (± 6.4)
Female	37.2 (± 22.8)	*

* The number of respondents (n) in this cell is less than 35

Seven in ten students who currently smoke cigarettes stated that they currently desire to stop smoking (66.8%) or that they tried to stop smoking during the past year but failed (64.2%) (Table 3)

V.4 Environmental Tobacco Smoke

Table 4: Environmental Tobacco Smoke, United Arab Emirates GYTS, 2002

Category	Exposed to smoke from others in their home		Exposed to smoke from others in public places		Percent think smoking should be banned from public places		Definitely think smoke from others is harmful to them	
	Never Smokers	Current Smokers	Never Smokers	Current Smokers	Never Smokers	Current Smokers	Never Smokers	Current Smokers
Total	25.9 (± 2.3)	62.7 (± 6.4)	30.6 (± 2.6)	70.3 (± 5.8)	72.8 (± 2.9)	52.7 (± 7.9)	64.9 (± 2.9)	42.0 (± 7.3)
Sex								
Male	24.7 (± 2.7)	61.7 (± 8.0)	33.5 (± 3.5)	70.4 (± 6.0)	72.8 (± 3.4)	52.9 (± 9.0)	61.8 (± 3.4)	46.2 (± 9.1)
Female	26.5 (± 2.9)	68.9 (± 11.6)	27.9 (± 3.8)	62.0 (± 13.3)	73.5 (± 4.1)	47.0 (± 17.3)	67.7 (± 3.8)	29.0 (± 12.0)

Approximately one third of never smokers and two thirds of current smokers were exposed to smoking in their homes and in public places (Table 4). In both places the exposure to environmental tobacco smoke for current smokers was twice as high as the exposure for never smokers, in their homes 62.7% of current smokers and 25.9% of never smokers were exposed, while in public places 70.3% of current smokers and 30.6% of never smokers were exposed. Approximately three-fourths of never smokers (72.2%) and over one half of current smokers (52.7%) think smoking should be banned in public places. Two thirds of never smokers (64.9%) and approximately half of current smokers (42.0%) think smoke from others is harmful to them. There was no significance difference by gender.

V.5 Knowledge and attitudes

Table 5: Knowledge, United Arab Emirates GYTS, 2002

Category	Definitely think smoking is harmful to your health	
	Never Smokers	Current Smokers
Total	83.5 (± 2.4)	59.4 (± 6.4)
Sex		
Male	79.2 (± 3.7)	63.9 (± 7.8)
Female	87.5 (± 2.0)	48.0 (± 13.0)

More than eight in ten never smokers (83.5%) and six in ten current smokers (59.4%) definitely think that smoking is harmful to their health. More female never smokers know the harmful

effects of smoking than males, but there is no statistically significant difference regarding knowledge between male and female current smokers.

Table 6: Attitudes, United Arab Emirates GYTS, 2002

Category	Think boys who smoke have more friends		Think girls who smoke have more friends		Think smoking makes boys look more attractive		Think smoking makes girls look more attractive	
	Never Smokers	Current Smokers	Never Smokers	Current Smokers	Never Smokers	Current Smokers	Never Smokers	Current Smokers
Total	28.4 (± 2.5)	39.7 (± 5.7)	14.6 (± 1.7)	28.6 (± 5.5)	26.2 (± 2.7)	38.1 (± 6.9)	15.9 (± 1.7)	24.5 (± 4.8)
Sex								
Male	29.3 (± 2.8)	39.1 (± 6.3)	17.1 (± 2.8)	27.9 (± 6.0)	25.5 (± 3.6)	39.9 (± 8.0)	17.7 (± 2.6)	26.9 (± 6.1)
Female	27.3 (± 3.7)	34.6 (± 12.7)	12.7 (± 2.3)	30.5 (± 13.0)	26.2 (± 3.8)	35.6 (± 15.4)	14.5 (± 2.4)	19.9 (± 10.9)

Approximately three in ten never smokers think that boys who smoke have more friends and look more attractive (28.4% and 26.2% respectively) (Table 6). The same trend is evident among current smokers where approximately four in ten of them also think that boys who smoke have more friends and look more attractive (39.7% and 38.1% respectively). A lesser number of both never and current smokers accept the fact that girls who smoke have more friends or look more attractive. The attitude towards the acceptance of smoking does not vary by gender.

V.6- Media and advertising

Table 7: Media and Advertising United Arab Emirates GYTS, 2002

Category	Percent Saw Anti-Smoking Media Messages	Percent Saw Pro-Tobacco Messages in Newspapers and Magazines		Percent Who Had Object With a Cigarette Brand Logo On It		Percent Offered A Free Cigarettes by a Tobacco Company	
		Never Smokers	Current Smokers	Never Smokers	Current Smokers	Never Smokers	Current Smokers
Total	74.2 (± 1.6)	72.8 (± 2.4)	81.6 (± 5.3)	10.7 (± 1.6)	28.1 (± 6.4)	9.8 (± 1.8)	30.2 (± 8.3)
Sex							
Male	72.9 (± 2.5)	74.1 (± 3.1)	82.7 (± 6.8)	13.5 (± 2.1)	27.7 (± 6.7)	13.4 (± 3.8)	29.1 (± 10.1)
Female	74.9 (± 2.7)	71.6 (± 3.5)	77.2 (± 12.1)	8.1 (± 1.7)	30.2 (± 15.7)	6.4 (± 1.9)	23.0 (± 14.1)

Three-fourths of students (74.2%) saw an anti-tobacco media message in the past 30 days (Table 7). Over seven in ten never smokers (72.8%) and eight in ten current smokers (81.6%) saw a pro-tobacco message in newspapers and magazines during the past 30 days. One in ten never smokers (10.7%) and three in ten current smokers (28.1%) had an object with a cigarette brand logo on it. One in ten never smokers (9.8%) and more than three in ten current smokers (30.2%) were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative. Twice as many male current smokers either had an object with a cigarette brand logo or were offered a free cigarette by a tobacco company representative compared to non-smokers. There was no statistically significant difference between male and female students to media exposure.

V.7- Access and Availability

Table8: Access and Availability, United Arab Emirates GYTS, 2002

Category	Percent Current Smokers who Usually Smoke at Home	Percent Current Smokers who Purchased Cigarettes in a Store	Percent Current Smokers Who Bought Cigarettes in a Store Who Were Not Refused Because of Their Age
Total	13.7 (± 4.4)	48.4 (± 8.5)	79.7 (± 7.3)
Sex			
Male	9.3 (± 4.6)	55.2 (± 8.1)	79.0 (± 8.5)
Female	29.3 (± 10.6)	15.3 (± 10.4)	*

* The number of respondents (n) in this cell is less than 35

Over one in ten current smokers (13.7%) usually smoke at home; however, three times as many female current smokers smoke at home compared to male current smokers (29.3% and 9.3% respectively) (Table 8). Almost half of current smokers (48.4%) purchase their cigarettes in a store, and eight in ten of those (79.7%) had not been refused purchase because of their age.

VI- Discussion

The discussion will focus on the leading topics presented earlier.

VI.1- Tobacco use

Very few people begin to use tobacco as adults, almost all first use has occurred by the time people graduate from high school. Recent data suggests that one-third of young smokers start before the age of ten, and the vast majority of adult smokers started before the age of eighteen.